

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A Raw raw powder for sintering, comprising Fe as its primary component and also comprising 0.8 wt% or less of C, 0.05 to 1.0 wt% of Si, 1.0 wt% or less of Mn, 0.15 to 1.0 wt% of Nb, and 1.0 to 10.0 wt% or less of Ni[L], wherein the mean grain size of the raw powder for sintering is 8.5  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.
2. (Currently Amended) The raw powder for sintering according to claim 1, further containing at least one element selected from among 2.0 wt% or less of Cr, 3.0 wt% or less of Mo, 3.0 wt% or less of Cu, ~~0.15 to 1.0 wt% of Nb~~, and 0.05 wt% or less of Ti.
3. (Original) The raw powder for sintering according to claim 1, wherein the raw powder for sintering is manufactured by a prealloy method.
4. (Original) Granulated powder for sintering, obtained by granulating the raw powder for sintering according to claim 1 by means of a binder.
5. (Original) The granulated powder for sintering according to claim 4, wherein the mean grain size of the granulated powder for sintering is 10 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

6. (Original) A sintered compact with a relative density of 97% or greater, manufactured using the raw powder for sintering according to claim 1.

7. (Currently Amended) A sintered compact with a ~~specific gravity~~ relative density of 97% or greater, manufactured using the granulated powder for sintering according to claim 4.

8. (Original) A method for manufacturing a sintered compact, comprising a step in which the raw powder for sintering according to claim 1 is first molded and then sintered under specific temperature conditions.

9. (Original) A method for manufacturing a sintered compact, comprising a step in which the granulated powder for sintering according to claim 4 is first molded and then sintered under specific temperature conditions.